

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested. Claims 1-2 and 5-6 remains pending in the application following the decision of the PTO Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences dated July 29, 2004.

By the foregoing Amendment, independent claim 1 has been amended to address comments set forth in the Board's Decision on Appeal. More particularly, in the Board's Decision, only the rejection of claims 1 and 5-6 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), as being anticipated by British Patent Document No. 849,255 (Cermak) was sustained. However, in sustaining this rejection, the Board asserted in the sentence bridging pages 7-8 of the Decision that:

"Accordingly, the claimed "similar rotationally symmetrical troughs" are readable on the cylindrical pockets of Cermak which are each formed by rotation of a rectangle (i.e., a trapezoidal) about the axis of the cylinder."

Based on this assertion, the Board maintained the rejection of Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Cermak document. This rejection is respectfully traversed. However, in an effort to expedite the present application, the phrase addressed by the Board has been removed from Claim 1. Claim 1 recites among other features that the troughs recited therein are in the form of "spherical cups". As such, Claim 1 is allowable of the Cermak document. The remaining claims all depend from Claim 1 and recited additional advantageous features which full distinguish over the documents cited upon in the final rejection.

All of the objections and rejections previously raised having been addressed,
it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance
and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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